

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 13316/3293

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/812,062 Confirmation No. 1313
Applicant : Barin Geoffry HASKELL et al.
Filed : March 30, 2004
Title : TARGET BITRATE ESTIMATOR, PICTURE ACTIVITY AND
BUFFER MANAGEMENT IN RATE CONTROL FOR VIDEO CODER
TC/A.U. : 2621
Examiner : Anner N. HOLDER
Customer No. : 25693

COMMUNICATION

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In a telephone discussion with the Examiner on October 1, 2008, the Examiner agreed to file a second Examiner Amendment making clear the amendments set forth in Applicants' fax of June 18, 2008, which amendments were not included in the first Examiner Amendment mailed July 11, 2008.

As of today, October 14, 2008 – the day the issue fee is due – the second Examiner Amendment has not been received. This letter provides the text of claim 21 in its amended form as agreed to by Applicants and the Examiner:

21. A quantizer selection method, comprising:
calculating a normalized average activity level of a picture from image
information of the picture,
adjusting a base quantizer value according to the picture's normalized average

activity level, and
selecting a quantizer value for the picture based on the adjusted quantizer value,
wherein the calculating comprises:
 for a plurality of macroblocks in the picture, calculating variances
 of image data for a plurality of blocks therein,
 from minimum variance levels of the macroblocks, calculating
 minimum activity levels of the macroblocks, wherein the minimum
 activity of each macroblock is calculated as:
 $actmin = 1 + \min(blkvar1, blkvar2, blkvar3, blkvar4)$, where $blkvar$
 represents the variances of 8x8 blocks within a respective macroblock, and
 normalizing the minimum activity levels of the macroblocks,
 wherein the normalized minimum activity per macroblock is calculated as:

$$actnorm = \frac{(2 \times actmin) + actminavg}{actmin + (2 \times actminavg)}$$

 where $actminavg$ is a sum of $actmin$ values for all macroblocks in a previously
 processed picture and the $actnorm$ values for all macroblocks in the picture are
 averaged to obtain the normalized average activity level of the picture.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions regarding the
foregoing.

Respectfully submitted,
KENYON & KENYON LLP

Dated: October 14, 2008

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